

**Nebraska Commission on Problem Gambling  
May 20, 2016 Meeting  
9:30AM – 3PM  
700 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

AGENDA ITEM 2. Roll Call: Present - Hoffman, Canada, Anselmo, Leckband, Scoville, Patterson. Absent/excused – Lutz, Holt, Bruder

AGENDA ITEM 3. Leckband moved for approval of the revised agenda as posted; Anselmo seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM 4. Canada moved for approval of the minutes of the meeting of March 10, 2016, as distributed; Anselmo seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chairman Hoffman announced that the discussion of the contract with the Nebraska Council on Problem Gambling for telephone helpline service would be tabled until the next meeting of the Commission to allow more time to gather information.

Chairman Hoffman called for a moment of silence

AGENDA ITEM 5. Chairman Hoffman announced that the meeting notice and revised agenda had been posted on the program website, the state events calendar and the website of the charitable gaming division of the department of revenue, all postings were made within a reasonable time before the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5. Chairman Hoffman announced that copies of the agenda and materials distributed to the commissioners are available on the back table, including a copy of the State of Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

AGENDA ITEM 6. Chairman Hoffman announced that election of officers would be tabled until the next meeting of the commission in order to allow for greater participation among commissioners.

AGENDA ITEM 7. The Commission discussed possible revision of the current bylaws. Commissioner Leckband suggested adding the Program Director as an ex-officio non-voting member of the executive committee. Further discussion was tabled to the next meeting of the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM 8. David Geier, Program Director, reported as follows:

The annual budget resolution for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, is item 9 of today's agenda. The budget outline is based on the same format as the outline given to the Commission last year. This will be discussed and acted upon when the meeting reaches item 9 on today's agenda.

Financial and accounting reports were distributed and discussed. The therapy counseling contractors are performing as anticipated. The Program is within two months of the end of the current fiscal year. At April 30 the program is generally under budget and within legislative earmark guidelines. Some items of operations expenditure are over budget. Since the budget is based on predictions, this can happen. As long as the totals are within the appropriations limits, the program is operating properly. Eight new therapy counseling contractors can be expected to increase demand as the next fiscal year goes ahead. At the point the demand for therapy service will be approximately \$1.1M by the end of this fiscal year. As the new fiscal year unfolds the demand can be expected to increase and put the program in financial difficulty.

Legislative agenda for the session beginning in January will include an attempt to improve finances of the program to make it sustainable in the long term. If the program appears to be running short during the current year a deficit appropriation request can be filed.

Audits of all counselor contracts have been completed, and all counselors are in reasonable compliance with program standards and contract terms.

AGENDA ITEM 9. The next item on the agenda was consideration of a budget outline for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. The director presented a budget resolution outline with three examples of possible budgets. After discussion, Hoffman moved adoption of BUDGET

EXAMPLE #3 that was included in the budget materials. Motion seconded by Leckband and adopted by unanimous vote.

Hoffman moved to offer NCCG a contract extension of six months for the telephone helpline to allow further investigation of an alternative vendor for this service. Leckband seconded the motion. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Hoffman moved approval of the contract therapy provider rates on the terms shown on the ATTACHMENT A form that is added to the counselor contracts, to remain in effect for the contract year beginning July 1, 2016. Canada seconded the motion and after discussion the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

#### AGENDA ITEM 10: Approval of Contract Proposals

The director reported that specifics of contract language are incomplete, so action by the Commission would be premature.

- Choices Mentoring – tabled to next meeting

- Supervision – tabled to next meeting

- State Fair Booth – tabled to next meeting

#### AGENDA ITEM 11: 2017 Marketing Plan (Public Education)

The Commission discussed participation in the Nebraska Whole Child Project of the Nebraska Association of School Boards, including possible sponsorship of the Student Wellness Education & Training conference in spring 2017. This project is still being investigated and no action by the Commission was taken at this meeting.

The marketing plan distributed to the commissioners included a proposal to participate in the Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey. The Program would submit questions pertaining to gambling issues in order to obtain information for use in future marketing. Leckband moved approval of expenditure of up to \$5000 for participation in the 2016 survey which will be conducted by the University of Nebraska Bureau of Sociological Research. Motion seconded by Hoffman. After discussion the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM 12: Materials from the budget request submitted in 2014 for the current biennium were distributed as a reminder. The director reported that early steps to develop a budget request for the next

biennium starting July 1, 2017, are underway. Detailed discussion of the next biennial budget will be at the next commission meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 13: Contract Increases. The director reported on the status of current contracts and the availability of funding to increase current year contracts. After discussion:

Hoffman moved approval of a contract increase for Choices in the amount of \$20,000. Seconded by Patterson. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Hoffman moved approval of a contract increase for Hampton in the amount of \$9,000. Seconded by Canada. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

Hoffman moved approval of a contract increase for Crossroads in the amount of \$7000. Seconded by Scoville. Motion adopted by unanimous vote.

The Director asked to return to AGENDA ITEM 9 to consider approval of attendance for the Director at the National Conference on Problem Gambling, sponsored by the National Council on Problem Gambling. The Conference this year will be held from July 13-16 in Tarrytown, New York. Expenses including conference registration, transportation and lodging will be approximately \$2500-3000. Leckband moved adoption of a resolution approving expenditure of up to \$3000 for the Director's attendance at the National Conference in July, 2016. The motion was seconded by Hoffman. After discussion the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Public Comment included discussion of a booth at the Nebraska State Fair in August. Staffing for 12 hours per day for 10 days could be provided by a combination of contract vendors, volunteers, Commissioners and staff. The subject needs further investigation before the Commission would decide to go ahead with the proposal. Consider a flat rate for booth, hand out informational material 1:50 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. Commissioners will be polled to determine the date of the next meeting.